



How to install a HP LaserJet Printer using the HP UPD (Windows)

This guide shows you how to install the HP UPD to use your Legacy or modern LaserJet so you do not have to install new drivers if you replace the printer or to get a Legacy printer working in a newer version of Windows.

Written By: Nick



INTRODUCTION

If you have a Legacy HP LaserJet HP no longer supports and does not provide drivers for or you do not want to install drivers for every new LaserJet you buy, this guide will show you how to use the HP UPD to install your printer in Windows.

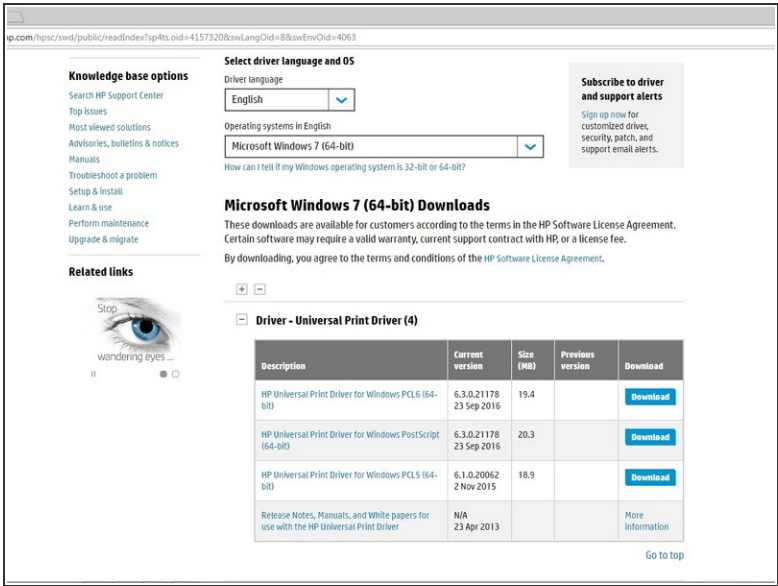
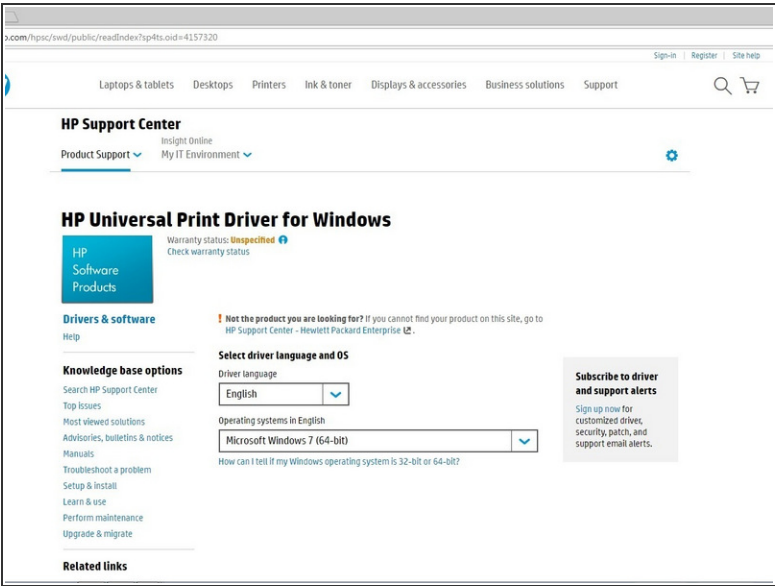
Note: Some printers may have problems with their utilities using this driver. This is an issue I am having with the M401n, so it will affect most older printers. Models like the P2055/P2035 are even more likely to have problems.

Step 1 — Research your printer



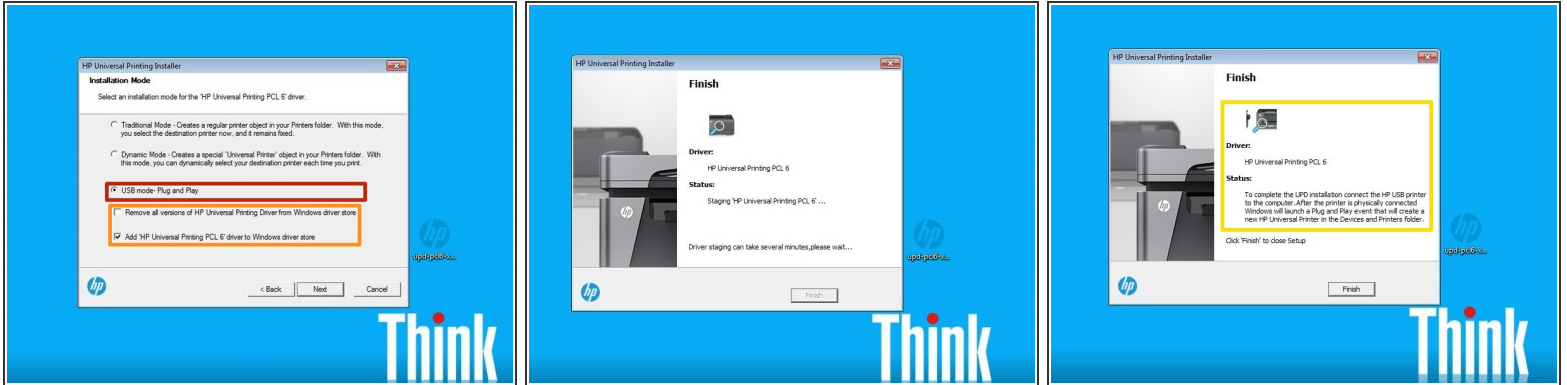
- i** Due to the general nature of this guide, specific printer languages are not covered. Find out which languages your printer supports and pick the correct driver (HP supports PostScript, PCL5 and PCL6).
- Look into the supported languages on your printer. The model I am using for this guide (LaserJet Pro 400 M401n) supports PostScript, PCL5 and PCL6. The recommended driver for this printer is PCL6.
- If you use USB, plug your printer in now.

Step 2 — Download the drivers needed



- ✦ Since I knew what my printer already used and was ideal, I was able to download my driver in advance. Many printers support multiple languages, so you may even have a choice which one you want.
- Once you know what print languages your printer supports, download the drivers that are best suited to your specific printer. The drivers can be found from the HP website [here](#).

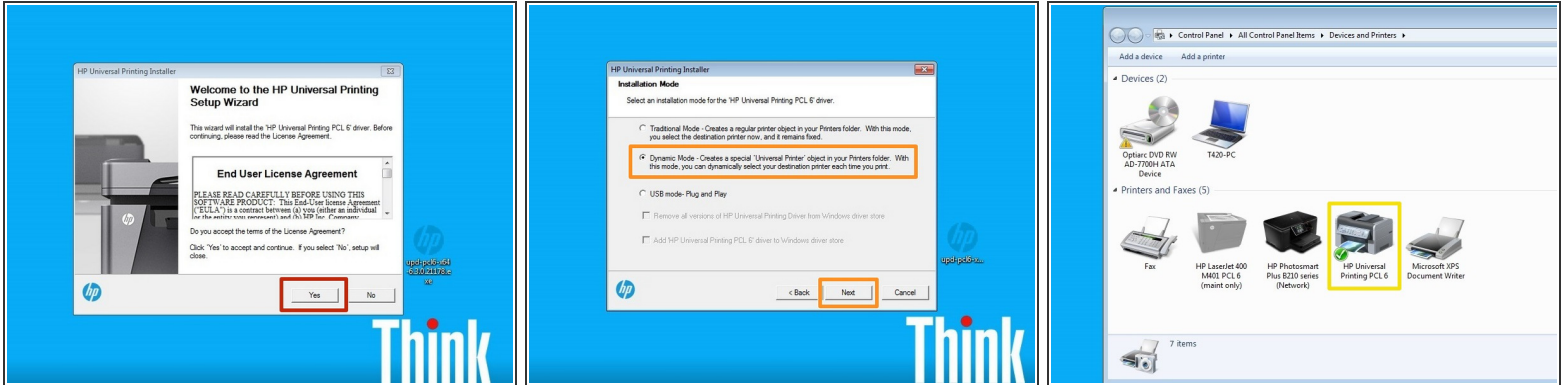
Step 3 — Driver installation (Plug and Play)



i This method copies the driver files to your computer. If you plug in a new printer over USB or install a printer over the network and the specific driver is not installed, your computer will use the HP UPD in place of the original driver.

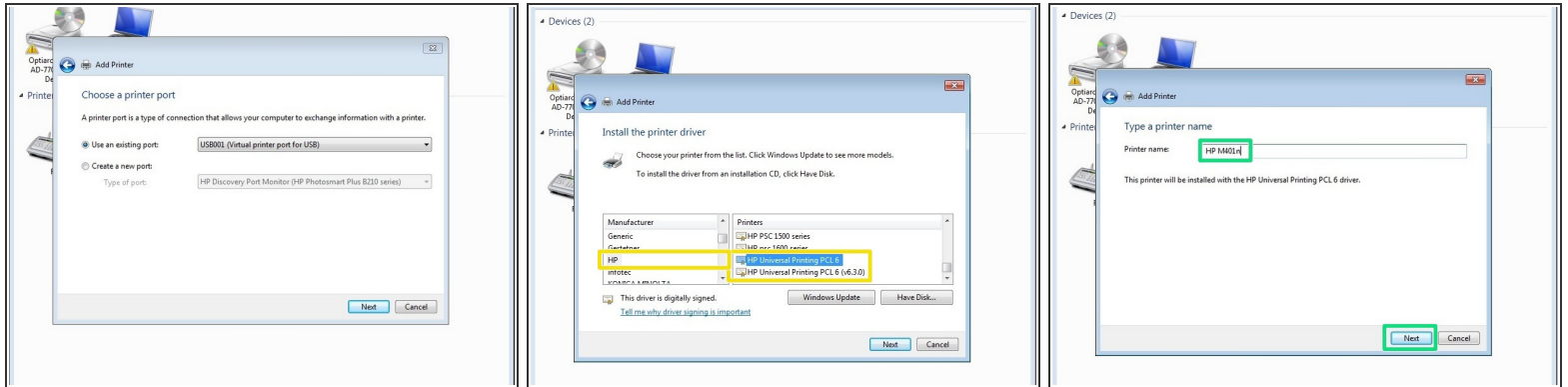
- At the installation screen, select **USB mode- Plug and Play**. I have picked the best options but you are free to change these if you wish to do so. Click **Next** and the files will be copied to your computer.
- Pick the options you want to use, if you are not happy with the defaults. **Tip: While I do not recommend deleting older versions of the UPD from your computer, this may be a necessity with UPD driver updates at some point in time.**
- Let the installer copy the driver files to your computer.

Step 4 — Driver installation (Dynamic mode)



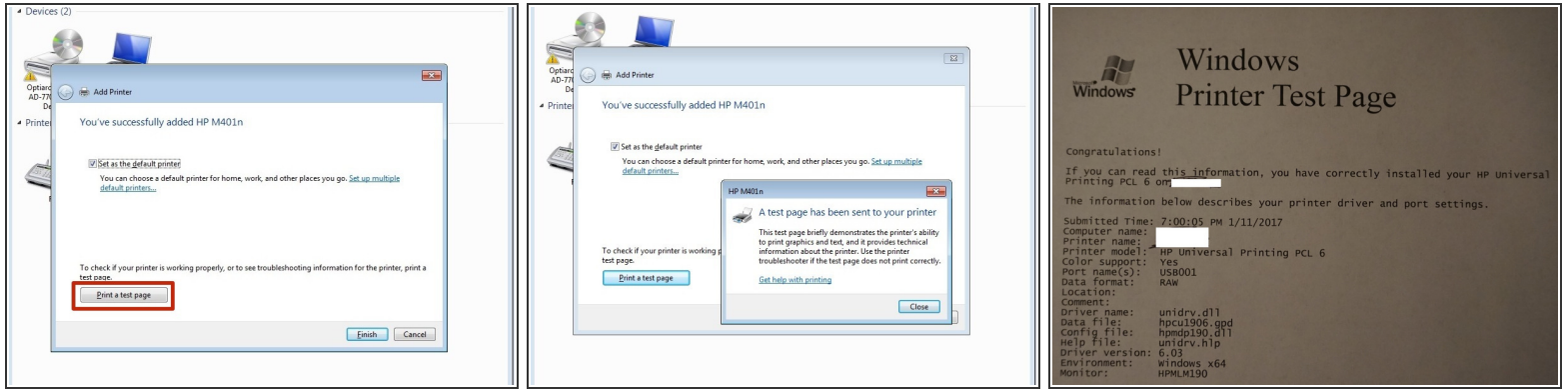
- ✦ If your printer is connected over USB, this installation mode is not supported. This only works on network printers.
- After the driver loads, agree to the license agreement.
 - Once you agree to the license agreement, you will be asked which installation mode you want to use. At this point, select **Dynamic Mode** and click **Next**.
 - Once the driver is installed, additional configuration is required. At this point, you will need to go into Devices and Printers, so you can use your printer in this mode.

Step 5 — Printer configuration (Manual)



- i This is only required when: **You are installing a difficult printer that refuses to install over Plug and Play or you are installing a networked printer if Dynamic Mode was not used**. You may not even need to use these steps in most circumstances, but could end up needing them if you have a difficult printer.
- i If you are installing the printer over USB, **USB_001** is a safe "go to" port. Unless you are using a special configuration or this is not available, this port will work in the majority of cases.
- i Some older printers only work over DOT4 ports like **DOT4_001**. If your printer does this, you will need the specific DOT port that is known to work. This may also require some experimentation.
- Find **Devices and Printers**. The location of this varies from each version of Windows, but generally speaking you will find that this is located in the start menu as **Devices and Printers**, starting with Vista. On Windows 8.x, you can find it by doing a local system search.
- Click **Add a Printer**. If you are installing over USB, select **Add a Local printer**. If you are installing a network printer, select **Add a Network, Wireless or Bluetooth printer**.
- Allow your computer to populate the driver list. Find **HP** and then locate the driver that says **HP Universal Printing PCL6 (Version)**. Click **Next** once you do this.
- Give the printer a name. What you give it can be left as-is or changed. Click **Next** and the printer will install.

Step 6 — Print a test page



- After the printer is installed, print a test page to make sure it works. To do this, click **Print a test page**.

To reassemble your device, follow these instructions in reverse order.

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